29th November 1928]

A.—(a) The Government do not consider it worth while collecting the information which necessitates an elaborate enquiry.

(b) (i) & (ii) Under the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, an officer of the Provincial or Subordinate Civil Service is liable to be debarred from employment 'within the district or other local limits' within which he possesses immovable property. The transfers and postings of District Munsifs are made by the High Court and the Government have no reason to think that they are not made in accordance with this rule.

(iii) This question does not arise in view of the answer to questions (i) and (ii) above.

## Criminal Justice

*Action taken against Mr. White for causing the death of a man in the Harbour premises.*

*853 Q.—Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has perused the records of proceedings of the case against Mr. White which ended in his conviction for causing the death of a man in the Harbour premises;

(b) whether the hon. Member passed orders directing the Crown Prosecutor to take the matter to the High Court for the purpose of having the sentence enhanced;

(c) whether Europeans are specially privileged by the terms of licence or otherwise to practise rifle shooting in the precincts of the Harbour during day or night, and, if so, the reasons for the grant of the privilege; and

(d) whether Mr. White is still permitted to possess firearms under licence or otherwise?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

(c) No.

(d) Yes. Mr. White is permitted to possess his rifle under licence.

Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyr:—"With reference to the answer to clause (d), may I know the reasons why he is permitted to possess the licence in spite of the implications underlying his conviction?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"That question does not directly concern me, Sir. It concerns my hon. Colleague."

The hon. the President:—"The hon. Member will have to put a separate question to the hon. the Home Member."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member what made him not to withdraw the licence from this gentleman?"

The hon. the President:—"The hon. Member will have to put a separate question."

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—"May I know what the sentence was in this case?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"It is a fine, I think."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao:—"May I know if the hon. Member made any recommendation to the hon. the Home Member to cancel his licence?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" No, no. It is not my concern."

Mr. P. C. Venkatapati Raju :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), are the Government taking any action against men who are practising rifle shooting in the precincts of the harbour without any special permission ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar : " We are considering the question, Sir."

*Ill-treatment of the undertrial prisoners in the Trichinopoly Railway strike case.*

*854-A *Q.*—Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 471, answered on 10th October 1928, regarding the ill-treatment of the undertrial prisoners in the Trichinopoly Railway strike case—

(*a*) whether the Government have received the report from the District Magistrate, Trichinopoly ;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) be in the affirmative, whether the Government will lay a copy of the report on the table ; and

(*c*) the action the Government have taken on the report ?

*A.*—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The facts reported by the District Magistrate relating to the allegations referred to in Mr. R. N. Ramaswami Ayyangar's letter, dated 16th September 1928, are as follows :—

(1) The motor bus which the District Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly, had engaged for emergencies during the strike and for some weeks afterwards had been returned to the bus company. He therefore ordered that the accused should walk to the Court (distance about 3 miles) as he saw no reason to the contrary when the doctor had certified them all fit to do so.

(2) The existing rules lay down that all able-bodied prisoners should be required to walk to the Court. The six accused who complained of inability to walk had already been examined by the District Medical Officer and found fit to walk.

(*c*) The Government have since ordered that the prisoners should be conveyed to the Court in motor buses.

Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar :—" Is it the absence of a bus or on account of the certificate of the doctor as to the fitness of the prisoners that influenced the Government in taking the action they did ? I am asking with reference to the answer to clause (*b*) (1), Sir."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" The Government have now ordered a bus to be provided."

Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar :—" What made the Government order the bus in spite of the certificate of the doctor ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Convenience of the prisoners."